



Clacton & District: Talented trio in treble whitewash

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As the Clacton & District League season enters its final weeks Brotherhood D recorded their third successive whitewash win in **Division Two** to move to within seven points of the top of the table.

This week the talented Brotherhood trio of Russell Hillier, Lee Harvey and Paul Alden enjoyed an impressive 10-0 victory against a Nomads Tigers side who, at the start of the season, harboured their own promotion hopes. The two closest matches saw Alden beat John Marshall 3-2 (11-4, 6-11, 9-11, 11-8, 11-7) and Phil Wolski also in five (8-11, 11-8, 6-11, 11-9, 11-9).

The result edges them ever closer to leaders Brotherhood H who had an 8-2 win over bottom-team Windsor Magpies. John Wrigley made a rare appearance for Brotherhood and logged a point with victory over Malcolm Caley. Grant Sharpe and Graham Parkes stayed unbeaten whilst Dave Sweetland and Kayley Rodriguez won a point each for the Magpies who, with time and matches running out, are beginning to look doomed.

Nomads Bobcats' late charge for promotion may have come just a little too late but they still played out a fine 8-2 victory over Brotherhood I, a result which leap-frogs them into fourth place. Jason Lloyd and Ethan Lloyd took trebles whilst Andrew Cawley's two wins included an excellent 11-9 in the decider victory over Mark Ratcliffe. Mark Beckham was Brotherhood's best player, defeating Cawley 11-6 in the fifth and narrowly losing out 11-6 in the fifth to Jason Lloyd and 11-8 in the fifth to Ethan Lloyd. Beckham and Woody Fitzpatrick also shared a surprise doubles win in three-straight over Cawley and Jason Lloyd.

The mid-table Walton C v Windsor Buzzards match predictably ended all-square. Rivhu Khan won three and John Bonner two for Walton, whilst Ray Chillingworth got a couple for the Buzzards. It was the Windsor side's first drawn match of the season

Nomads Jaguars removed any lingering relegation fears with an 8-2 victory against a Nomads Pumas' team which fielded a guest. Kevin Hume was the Jaguars' best player on the night with wins over Eric Lemke and

Lionel Goddard. Lemke got a couple for the Pumas who nearly sneaked a third point in the doubles, Hume and Andrew North eventually edging it 3-2 (9-11, 14-12, 5-11, 11-9, 11-9) against Lemke and Goddard.

In **Division Three** second-placed Nomads Wildcats beat Nomads Ocelots 10-0. There were hat-tricks for Mike Hillier and John Houghton although Houghton had to battle hard before beating Dominic Joannou 11-8 in the decider and Martin Cunningham 13-11 in the decider.

Robbie Strutt of the Ospreys stayed unbeaten in the all-Windsor tie against the Penguins but, despite his efforts, he still finished on the losing side, the Penguins taking the fixture 6-4 for a second time this season. Strutt had two tight matches, overcoming Alan Charman 11-6 in the fifth and Debra Found 12-10 in the fifth. Charman and Found won two each, and Jackie Bunce one, for the Penguins with Maci Harvey taking a point for the losers by beating Bunce 3-1 (11-9, 6-11, 11-4, 12-10).

Nomads Caracals beat Brotherhood G 7-3, Denise Thompson winning her three, Chris Jones two and Hazel Blanche one. Paul Metcalf won a couple for the losers.

Stuart Wilkinson and Dave Wright were the hat-trick men, whilst Roger McNaughton won twice, as Nomads Leopards defeated Brotherhood J 9-1. In a battle of the generations, Harley Wood took the Brotherhood point by beating McNaughton – and she nearly took a second, narrowly going down 13-11 in the fifth to Wright.

In **Division One** it was all too easy for Sam Hume, Gill Locke and John Monk of Nomads Panthers who defeated Walton B 10-0 with only one match extended to a fourth set.

Windsor Eagles were 9-1 victors against Windsor Hawks, Phil Smith and John Pattrick both taking trebles. It was good to see Sue Welham back in action for the Eagles and her two wins included a hard-fought five-set (9-11, 11-8, 6-11, 11-8, 12-10) success over Elliott Attrill. But she couldn't get the better of Andy Vincent who took the Hawks' point by beating Welham 11-6 in the decider.

It was also 9-1 for Brotherhood B against lowly Lawford. Martin Edwards took three, as did Gracie Edwards, although she had to come from behind to beat Richard Spence 3-2 (3-11, 3-11, 12-10, 11-6, 11-7). The two Edwards also had a tight 11-9 in the decider doubles victory against Spence and Ian Sherwood. Paul Hewitt took Lawford's point with a victory over John Owen.

So, with five matches to be played, only two points separate Windsor Eagles, Brotherhood B and Walton A in third, fourth and fifth positions.

Walton A lost ground this week when they went down to Brotherhood C who are now just five points behind in sixth place. Hat-tricks for Kevin Gowlett and Alan Burgess were the basis of Brotherhood's 7-3 success, a reverse of their early-season meeting. Gavin Price, Paul Woolnough and John Rankin took a point apiece for Walton.

Nomads Lions and Windsor Owls each fielded a reserve but the Lions came out on top 8-2, Roger Hance and Adam Wilkin both remaining undefeated.

* Details about the Closed Championships have now been circulated to all League players. The Tournament takes place on Saturday and Sunday April 22-23 at the Coastal Academy Sports Hall. The closing date for entries is Saturday April 1. To qualify players must have played at least seven League matches by the closing date.

* The Windsor Club's Quiz Evening is being held this Saturday (11th March) at St James Hall, 7pm for a 7.30 pm start. For details contact Jenny Higgins on 01255 432397.

RESULTS

Division 1

Nomads Panthers 10 Walton B 0

Windsor Eagles 9 Windsor Hawks 1

Brotherhood C 7 Walton A 3

Lawford 1 Brotherhood B 9

Windsor Owls 2 Nomads Lions 8

Brotherhood B 10 Windsor Kestrels 0

Division 2

Nomads Tigers 0 Brotherhood D 10

Nomads Jaguars 8 Nomads Pumas 2

Windsor Magpies 2 Brotherhood H 8

Walton C 5 Windsor Buzzards 5

Brotherhood I 2 Nomads Bobcats 8

Division 3

Nomads Wildcats 10 Nomads Ocelots 0

Brotherhood G 3 Nomads Caracals 7

Windsor Penguins 6 Windsor Ospreys 4

Nomads Leopards 9 Brotherhood J 1

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